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#### Weather Forecast for Saturday. Washington, April 1.-For Oklahoma and India: Territory: Fair and colder; northerly winds. For Missouri: Fair; colder in southeast portion:

mortherly winds. For Kansas: Pair: northerly winds

For Nebraska: Fair; warmer in western portion winds becoming southerly.

# VERY MUCH LIKE WAR.

A week ago war was only a possibility. To-day it is a strong probability. The surprise will come if it be averted, rather than if it be precipitated.

The United States government has made peremptory demands of the Spanish government, and the latter has not signified an intention of complying with them, but is proceeding in a way to indicate plainly that they will be refused. This can only mean war.

It is possible that something may ye occur to prevent hostilities, but that some thing is not now in sight.

The present indications are that before another week passes away cannon will be booming in the vicinity of Cuba and the beginning of the end of Spanish rule and barbarity in the Western hemisphere will have been inaugurated.

#### THEY TRY OUR PATIENCE.

The dispatches from Madrid make the average American citizen tired. Spanish officials are still higgling over nice points of "honor" and considering whether this or that can be done without violence to national prestige and pride. They don't seem to grasp the situation. They don't seem to realize that the controversy has passed beyond the stage of such considerations.

As the American people understand it there is only one question now for Spain to consider, and it is a simple one: Will che grant independence to Cuba, and do it quickly, or enter into immediate war with the United States? This is the alternative. It is no longer a question of diplomacy, but of necessity. She must yield immediately or take the consequences. Cuba is lost to her, whether she acknowledge it now or at the end of a sound thrashing.

It only irritates our people the more to see the Madrid officials persistently talking of the demands of Spanish honor, as if they had the power to avert or stay the inevitable. It is free Cuba or a fight, and which it is will be known in a very few hours.

## A TOO TARDY CONCESSION.

Spain is the victim of her own overconfidence, procrastination and brutality. She has no one but herself to blame for the sweeping protest of the American people against the barbaric conditions inflicted standing as the exponent and conservator of international and domestic peace, has been patient, generous and conciliatory to a degree that challenges the respect of the humane and peace-loving people of the world. Ever since the destruction of life and property on the island of Cuba began, we have made offers of mediation. These offers have been tendered upon the ground of common humanity and not upon the basis of disturbed commerce. They have been made in strict conformity with the comity of nations. Our interest has been intensified and our appeals strengthened ever since the outrageous order of Captain General Weyler brought indescribable miscry to the helpless non-combatants. From friendly intimations we have progressed by natural, legitimate ad logical processes to the point of final demand. In the interval Spain has had many opportunities to bring about a satisfactory solution of the Cuba question without undue humiliation. She has had the privilege of making such modlifications in her treatment of prisoners and pacificos as would enlist the respect, or at least avoid the resentment, of other powers. She has systematically pursued the most arrogant and cruel course, and, as a result, is to-day face to face with a great national humiliation, no matter whether she recedes from her persistent position or fights

to maintain it. That she should make this crisis the occasion to give freedom to the reconcentra-Spain," does not relieve the Spaniards from the charge of wanton cruelty nor lessen their obligation to grant absolute freedom. The concession comes too late. Humanity should be spontaneous. As a forced expression it has little value in the morals of nations.

# AS TO THE SCHOOLS.

With regard to school interests-and there are no other interests more important to the people of this community-two things are to be considered at the present moment. The rapidly increasing school population must be provided with house room, and the schools must be kept out of poli-

It is generally known to citizens that the school buildings now in use are overcrowded. Too many children are allotted to a room. The best results cannot be obtained under such conditions, to say nothing of the comfort and health of the children. The proposition to erect more buildings will be voted on at the approaching election, and if it should not carry there can nothing further be done in this direction, under the law, until the next regular election two years hence. The condition of things which would prevail by that time can be imagined and need not be described.

Our school board has shown that it understands the wants of the city in matters of this sort. The buildings it has erected in the past have met the demands placed upon them and received the approbation of the public. The board never asks for extensions of this character unless they are imperatively needed. The embarrassment that the board, and the superintendent, and the teachers, and the city would be subjected to if no provisions were made

at the coming election for enlarging the

schoolroom accommodations would be very serious, and our educational reputation which is now so high would necessarily suffer. As it requires a two-thirds vote to carry a proposition of this kind, no citizen should fail to cross out the word "No" on the school ballot which will be handed him by the election judges, and deposit it.

There is just one way to keep the schools out of politics, and that is to maintain the excellent plan which has worked so well heretofore. The nominees of the respective political parties, Mr. Norman and Mr. Yeager, must be supported in good faith by the voters of both parties and elected. The agreement to this effect, although unwritten, is binding on the honor of both Republican and Democratic voters. WAR AND NEUTRALITY LAWS.

One of the divisions of so-called international law embraces the rules which must govern nations actually at war as well as the nations which are preserving a position of professed neutrality. The first and foremost of the rules laid down for the government of neutral nations is that they shall furnish no assistance to either of two warring powers. They are not permitted to supply either combatant with men, arms or any warlike material after war has been officially declared, and this rule has been enlarged until it even prohibits the loan or gift of money, except

where interest is paid and the act is free

from every consideration except that of an ordinary commercial transaction, The rules governing neutrality received their most thorough discussion and exposition at the tribunal of arbitration at Geneva, called to settle the differences between the United States and England or account of the latter's ald and assistance to the Southern Confederacy. It was alleged by the United States that England had grossly violated the rules of neutrality by building, equipping and furnishing to the Confederacy the cruisers Alabama and Florida, which later were permitted to enter British ports for the purpose of taking on supplies and munitions and selling their prizes. The arbitration board, composed of a delegate each from Italy, Brazil, Switzerland, the United States and Great Britain, held that it was the duty of a neutral nation not only to refrain from lending assistance in an official manner, but also its duty to exercise the utmost vigilance to prevent its private citizens from doing so. It was found that England had not exercised due diligence in this regard and the United States was given an award of \$15,000,000 in compensation for damages inflicted by the Confederate cruisers. In awarding these damages the board held that the United States could not expect remuneration for the cost incurred in pursuing and destroying these cruisers, as this was an indirect expense which could not be separated from the general expenses of the war, and it also held that such damages to American shipping as might be found in the loss of profits were equally in-

But the board laid down very plainly the duty of neutral nations to keep hands off in every way. It held that a neutral nation would be guilty of an unfriendly act if it permitted a war vessel to take on supplies in one of its ports except for the relief of actual distress. Such a vessel is not permitted even to take on coal, only of profound peace. in sufficient quantity to run it to the nearest port of its own nation. Thus, if one of the South American countries permitted Spain to establish coaling stations on its coast, it would be guilty of an overt act against the United States. So. too. was it decided that an armed force of a nation cannot pass through a neutral nation to reach its antagonist, and under the rules it would become the duty of the neutral nation to capture the force and disarm it if such an attempt were made. These rules of neutrality become of great significance in view of the fact that if Spain fights the United States it must be at a long distance from her base of supplies. How she will coal her warships cruising in the Western waters is a problem which no doubt now is vexing the Spanish ministry. Under the rules of neutrality certain duties are imposed, as well as restrictions. It is the duty of a neutral nation to protect a war vessel which has taken refuge in its harbors. If we should chase a Spanish gunboat into a Central American port we would not be permitted to assall her there. If we entered the same port we would be expected to give the Spaniard twenty-four hours start, so that a battle could not take place in the vicinity. If the etiquette of war were strictly obeyed, however, the Spanfard would not be permitted to remain in refuge more than twenty-four hours, ex-

goes, together with interest.

This law of refuge was very strictly obeyed by Captain Winslow, of the Kearsarge, at the time he met and sank the Alabama. The latter vessel had taken refuge in the port of Cherbourg, France, and Captain Winslow held his ship three miles off the harbor, or beyond the neutral limit. He no doubt would have observed the rule to give his antagonist twenty-four hours' start when she sought to leave, and the Alabama might have got off scot free had not Captain Semmes sent a boastful challenge to fight. When the Alabama appeared ready for the fray, Captain Winslow steamed three miles further out to sea in order to be sure that he was not trespassing on French jurisdiction. It was at this engagement that another very serious complication arose involving international law. An English vessel, the Deerhound, conveyed a lot of the Alabama sailors, rescued from the water, to a place of safety, instead of turning them over to the Kearsarge as prisoners of war. It was held by most authorities that the Kearsarge was entitled to all of these men. and that the Deerhound violated a rule of neutrality.

cept in case of bad weather or serious dis-

With these stringent rules governing neutral nations it is very plain that a nation intending to go to war should thoroughly equip herself before declaring such a purpose. If President McKinley had listened to the jingoes and declared war some weeks ago, it would have been utterly impossible for us to have purchased the valuable boat and munitions which we have since ac quired from foreign nations. A declaration of war will be the signal for all the nations of Europe to go into a state of neutrality, when neither Spain nor the United States can buy abroad a pound of powder an ounce of lead, or a weapon of any sort except surreptitiously, and in violation of

The rules governing actual warfare are quite as stringent as the rules governing neutrality, though, like the code duello, they are based solely on honor. They are

international law.

blow up a ship or fort with nite and all. The sum is sufficient. tear hundreds of human be pieces. but it would be forbidden it redhot shot, chain shot or hollow speaking of this, Mr. Elfreth Watkins

"Redhot shot were used iwars of Frederick the Great. Canals were seated redhot and fired, toine the horrors of fire to those of corn. Chain shot was even more cruel in A pair of cannon were loaded with connected by chains, the guns being ogether, but trained to such an an would spread the balls apart when to fuses were lighted simultaneously, peans of the chain large bodies of night be mangled terribly. Hollow shie interdicted because they became fid when in contact with a bone, imaking

wounds unnecessarily painful The use of poison is barredalso the use of explosive shells weights than fourteen ounces. A dynamite weighing 500 pounds may be fired inegiment of men, but a dynamite muski would

#### be used by no self-respecting n EDITORIAL PARAGRI,

It is now too late to head or Spanish torpedo flotilla. But it is ne late to

wipe it out. Spanish bonds are going d and it may not be many days until \$h gunboats will be following their ele.

Spain's desire for three wedelay is

not hard to understand. The mder of her fleet could cross the Atlain that On perusing the addresses enators Proctor and Thurston, Abdul & is in-

clined to regard himself as a yumane sort of ruler. President McKinley says heys for peace; but he is not neglectingaccom-

pany his prayers with energeteparations for war. By releasing the reconcentr Spain seeks to remove the casus b There is such a thing as Spanish mebut it

is utterly selfish.

President McKinley's course beceived the indersement of the Europeowers. and of everybody in this cour whose good opinion is worth having.

By asking for Cuban recognitivithout war, Mr. Bailey is compromising position. When a statesman starts to play jingo for the galleries he had ir play it up to the limit.

If General Grosvenor underst this administration-and he rather to he does-the American people will sily see that they have had no cause toaplain of a lack of vigor in the presidentuban policy.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt ws a little ice water on our war enthum by declaring that our navy is infr to direct and unpayable. All that was al-Spain's, But perhaps Mr. Roose will lowed was the actual loss in ships and carchange his opinion after witnessir few engagements. Congress has for years refused nake

large appropriations for the ar and navy, on the ground that we were nkely to become involved in war. All ohich goes to show that the proper timeprepare for war is when we are in thidst If Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt really we to

buy a battleship for the governm he

should hustle around and find histtle-

ship. Valuable war vessels are airce

commodity just now. Moreover hourchase must fly the stars and stripesfore war is declared, or it will be held foreign port by neutrality laws. The Populists in congress haveen among the noisiest jingoes, and yet tar comes it will be the death of the Pdist party. That organization was theutgrowth of internal discontent and its tre depends on continuance of disconten's

#### content and cements a people togetheo effectually as a foreign war. KANSAS TOPICS.

every one knows, nothing drives ouls-

Wonder if Mr. Ayling, of Iola, ever ts downright sick?

Cy Leland owns the fastest trotg horse in Topeka. What is that? Major Hudson for pear

Oh, perish the thought!

Captain John Seaton once offered to le the government \$100,000, and says he ready to do it again. Of the seven Republican candidat

for governor, all have old soldier recor At this hour, when the nation is clar oring for her fighting men, where are Jo Tuesday.

Waters and R. B. Welch?

the Niger? What a pity it is Governor Lewelling die early pears and plums were practically all not discover he was the descendant o killed.

Quakers, and opposed to battle, before he Postmaster and Former Congressman Congressman McCormick says McKinley tang, ble way, his belief that the Lord as we

a poltroon for not at once declaring war, as the government should have suitable By the way, has Congressman McCormick quarters in which to transact official busi yet succeeded in getting the record blotted ness, by subscribing \$1,000 toward the erec out which shows him to have been a de-tion of a new Presbyterian church in Mex serter from the Union army? ico. Amidst the clash and clangor of martial Another bright Missouri boy has broken Amost the clash and clanger of martial Another bright alsould boy has broken jawbones, have you noticed the ominous a record, Robert N. Ross, of Morgan counsilence in the vicinity of Captain John J. ty. who graduated at Beaumont Hospital Ingalls, late judge advocate volunteer army, L. S. of A.? Is it possible that the man who ago, having scored 2,634 points out of a refused to beat his sword into pruning possible 2,700 in his final examination—the hooks and fought the Southern brigadiers best showing ever made in that excellent for eighteen large years ofter Argenmatics.

for eighteen long years after Appomattox Institution. is now for peace? Columbus ice houses with ice from the Northern lakes, which, owing to the glo-rious Italian climate of Kansas, have a frightful monopoly in the business of con-gealing water.

Annual of Kansas, have a by the rapid increase of Republican votes and the consequent fading out of sentiment

gealing water. Webb McNall informs Topics that he has all the insurance company managers following him around, about as the lamb fol- for the "market fair" soon to be held in lowed Mary. One of them pursued him out Carthage is a harnessing contest, in which to Gaylord the other day, and then drove twenty miles through a blizzard to reach him at his farm. Webb did not inform us whether the manager's fingers became too numb to write a check.

A candidate for a city office in Parson indignantly refutes the charge that he is a hard drinker. He declares that he is temperance man from principle and that he hasn't been drunk since the night the news came of the election of President Me-Kinley. If his incentive at that time was joy and not grief he certainly has accom-plished a triumphant vindication. county's most stalwart representative plished a triumphant vindication.

Lawrence may appear to be a little sleepy, but when it comes to selecting a committee to collect subscriptions she certainly is very wide awake. The committee appointed to gather money for the rebuilding of the burned powerhouse at the uniseemingly inconsistent in many respects. versity advanced W,000 out of their own good people of Fulton and Callaway coun-

For example, it is perfectionate to pockets and did not go upon the streets at ty. He failed, but it was from no fault of

"A militia lieutenant in this town," says the Iola Register, "has a letter from a militin colonel in another town saying that he (the colonel) has private advices from Washington that war will be declared this week. This is the same militia colonel who wrote to Colonel Funston a few days ago offering him a place on his staff in the vent of war with Spain."

Mrs. Dona Morgan has filed suit for diorce at Coffeyville and alleges in her petition that, though married only five months, she has discovered that her husband "is too big and strong to work." It is likely hat the district court judge will strike out this expression on the ground that it is a trespass upon the dignity of the court but what seven other words could so convincingly depict the situation?

Railroad Commissioner Dillard says he is for St. John for congress, providing St. John will agree to abandon his prohibition principles. Mr. Dillard surely does not keep in touch with current events or he would know that St. John long since abandoned his prohibition principles. In a speech in Wyoming he declared that henceforth he intended to co-operate with the Democratic party, and in evidence of good faith he signed the first drug store joint petition that was presented to him at Olathe.

A reader at Iola sends Topics the following: "The other day in presenting a case in district court one of our lawyers referred to the new statutes, and inadvertently called the book 'Webb's Complication of the Kansas Statutes.' He saw his error in an instant and started out to apologize to the court, when Judge Stillwell smiled and said: "The counsel has not been irrelevant. The court will entertain no motion

The Wichita Eagle triumphantly an nounces that the managers of the local fair ssociation have completed arrangements for some attractions at the coming fall fair which will "draw thousands of people from all over the middle West." The attractions consist of a woman who hangs herself on a wire by her hair and slides fifty feet, a pair of ostriches that are driven to a cart. and a man who jumps off a fifty foot tower into a well. When it is remembered that the fair will also have a \$500 prize for the best joint conducted by a gentleman, and that Button-Eyed Pete has consented to attend with his galaxy of shell artists and crap shooters, it must be apparent that a erfect delirium of pleasure awaits the housands who attend from the middle West.

Ewing Herbert is becoming just a trifle delirious. He says: "The issue is clearly defined—political slavery or political free dom. Oh, let us be free! Let us vote like men-not like sheep or cattle. Enlist for freedom at home. Then on to Cuba if need be!"

An old soldier at Topeka has made a very novel and patriotic proposition. He pro poses that, in the event of war with Spain. the old soldiers shall refuse to draw pensions until hostilities have ceased, thus urnishing the government with \$150,000,000 a year without additional taxation.

"Have you noticed," said a very prom inent politician of Kansas to Topics yester day, "that the name of Secretary John Sherman has never been mentioned once in all the Cuban discussion? Whenever the state department has appeared in the dispatches it has always been in connection with the name of Judge Day. There is something ominous in this. Secretary Sherman must be a very sick man.'

A representative of The Journal recently visited the boys' reform school, maintained by the state at Topeka, and he says it is impossible to picture on paper the genera air of desolation and dilapidation which surrounds that institution. In many places the fences are propped up with sticks, and glaring red boards take the place of broken white pickets. Gates are down even in the fence surrounding the cemetery, where the cows are permitted to roam at will. The lawn is unkept and the outbuildings all some blight had fallen over the whole in stitution. That disorganization has also attacked the interior is shown very clearly by the great number of runaways that have occurred under the present administration. The boys have become discontented and surly and no longer look upon the school as a happy refuge. Governor Leedy has endeavored to straighten out affairs by discharging some of the quarreling officials but it appears to have been without avail. Nowhere else in Kansas has official in capacity been so openly displayed, and if reform is not soon accomplished the school

# MISSOURI POINTS.

Playwright Hoyt himself couldn't have made a more appropriate selection from a name standpoint than the Mexico people are likely to in the choice of Will Settle as collector.

A. L. Gale, a capable young Missourian who at one time guided the destinies of the Maryville Tribune, is now doing particularly good work as city editor of the St. Joseph Daily News.

Lamb, as a candidate for the mayoralty, heads the Republican ticket in Macon this year, but it is no part of the purpose of the good citizens of that thriving town to permit him to be led to the slaughter next

As the Sarcoxie Tribune figures out the What possible connection in his lectur situation in that part of the state the can Ed Little make between the Nile an strawberry crop suffered no injury through the recent cold snap, but the early peaches were damaged about 50 per cent, and the

Treloar has indicated, in a commendably

"Of course they'll smile at such a thought In the state senate a year ago Weeping how, but in less than eight years," proph-Moses Householder declared that the way esies the Maryville Tribune, "the Demo-to destroy the monopolists was to refuse to trats of Missouri will be found devising to destroy the monopolists was to refuse to buy from them. And yet he has filled his Columbus ice houses with ice from the recently adopted, giving to them the ab-

> in favor of fiat and cheap money. A novel and attractive feature proposed at a given signal each competitor shall har ness a horse to a buggy and drive around the track, the first one around to win first money. The plan is to have the court house officials furnish money sufficient to hang up four prizes, and it is to be essential that each competitor shall affirm that he has owned the horse entered at least six months and that it has never been in the hands o

"No governor of any Southern state in the days of reconstruction ever was as un worthy the respect of man as is Missouri's of little Lonnie's own party. General Dick Horne, of the Marshall Democrat-News They simply looted the states of money while Stephens has shown himself an a sassin of female character, in that he used his office in an attempt to blacken the rep utation of women who are supported by the

a trainer.

his. If the next legislature falls to impeach him and drive him from office it will miss a great opportunity to rid the state of an official for whom everybody in Missouri blushes."

"The Klondike Gospel Band, a company of men who are 'roughing it' to the Klon-dike in order to become inured, held servces at the Baptist church Monday night. the Mexico Tribune says. "They created a very good impression, although each was a reformed something or other. The leader is Senor DeSoto, a reformed Spaniard aki to a noted explorer some time dead. He didn't have the temerity to boast of nationality, however, and consequently left town safely."

Editor Moorhead, of the Hopkins Journal one of Northwest Missouri's best papers, by the way-celebrates the twenty-second birthday anniversary of his publication this week in a joyful, glad-we're-alive manifesto, in the course of which appears this patriotdeclaration: "Missouri is the best state in the Union; Nodaway is the best county Missouri; Hopkins is the best town in Nodaway county; so all we have to regret is, we will die some time and be compelled to leave here."

Here's a good Missouri story, which possesses not only the merit of being absolutely true, but the additional one of never having appeared in print before. Its authenticity is vouched for by one of the most accurately informed and widely known public men in the state: An elder brother of Frank P. Sebree, the Demoeratic candidate for mayor of Kansas City, is Captain Uriel Sebree, a distinguished officer in the United States navy. The Sebree boys are the sons of the late Judge John Sebree, who, in his day, was one of the prominent citizens of old Howard county-"the mother of Missouri statesmen." Back in the early '70s Captain Sebree, then a lieutenant, was coasting with his vessel along Western Africa, and cast anchor one day at a small village for the purpose of taking on a supply of fresh water and vegetables. He soon observed among the natives who were engaged in bringing the supplies on board a negro who spoke the English language very plainly, although he wore the garb and had the appearance of a native. Lieutenant Sebree walked up to him on the deck and said: "I notice you speak the English language; where you learn it?" "In the United States, sir. I was born in that country." "Born in the United States-what state?" "Missouri, sir." Sebree had become thoroughly interested. "What county in Missouri did

you come from?" asked he. From Howard county, sir. I was born there, near a town called Fayette," was

the reply. "When did you leave there?"

"In 1860, sir. Light began to dawn on the lieutenant. He looked at the negro closely, and, although many years had passed and many changes taken place, he recognized in the apparently wild barbarian of Africa, the breech-clouted savage, a boy he had known in his childhood. In 1869 an atrocious murder had been perpetrated in Howard county-a murder such as was sometimes, though not often, committed in the South before the war-a negro killed his master in cold blood. Search was at once begun for the assassin, and every effort made to apprehend him, but he escaped to Canada, and, the war beginning shortly thereafter, all trace of him became lost. It all came back to Sebree like a revelation. Here, then, was the murderer, after all the long years. He was fully recognized by the lieutenant, who decided, however, not to allude to the

crime, but again began his questions. you lived near Fayette. Did you know Judge Sebree, who lived there? It was now the negro's turn to be surprised. "Fo' God, man, who is you, any-

"I am the little boy that you used to play with-Uriel Sebree-don't you remember me, Sam?"

They sat down on the deck of the shipthe polished and gentlemanly officer of the United States navy and the wild and almost naked savage-and talked over the souri. No allusion was made by either to the tragedy that had caused one to leave his native land and become a barbarian Old friends were spoken of, and the negro made many inquiries about those he had known in his young days. At last, as the sun went down, they parted, the ne gro going ashore to his hut. He told Lieutenant Sebree that he would return the next day and bring with him some presents that he would like to have taken to some of his old friends in Howard county but he didn't come back, and that was the last seen of him. He evidently had become suspicious and feared being kidnaped and carried back to America to be tried for the crime he had committed.

# Our Old Friend, the Duke.

From the Chicago News The Madrid cable has done a great injus tice to our old-time friend, the Duke of Veragua, or else the duke's sense of grati tude has undergone a dulling process since he was Chicago's guest in 1893. According to the cable the duke said recently:

"President McKinley does not inspire me with confidence. He thinks himself the first statesman in the world. He is proud and vain and his great vanity makes him believe himself a Napoleon, when, in reality, he is an ignorant sutler."

Our reason for doubting that the duke gave utterance to such harsh sentiments is the close relation which exists between the people of this country and the duke. When the world's fair was in full bloom and Chi cago was entertaining crowned and cracked living on the fat of the land and the smiles of the Hon. Thomas Palmer, president of the world's fair. He was breakfasted, dined and suppered, and when his star was plump in the zenith the news came that his estates in dear old sunny Spain had "gone

Three thousand miles from home broke is no laughing matter. But Tom Palmer came to his old friend's aid with a popular subscription. He called upon all true Americans to give liberally, that the son of the country which had allowed the United States to be discovered might rebuild his fortunes and reclaim his estates. It was largely through Tom's and Vera gua's influence that Isabella gave Columbus his discovery money, and Tom wanted to show his appreciation.

Tom's call was hardly made before the sublic began to loose its purse strings. From the North and South, from the East and West, came the contributions. thing was forgotten except that Veragua was broke. The American heart never un derwent such an enlargement and never was a cause therefor more enlarging. When all the countries had been heard from, when the last American heart had beat its final throb of liberality, the contributions were counted. The Veragua fund contained

To the president of so generous a people the Duke of Veragua could not offer insult Of the president of a people who had re-ciaimed his estates the duke could not say an unkind word. That is why we know the quoted Madrid cablegram is a fake.

#### Independence the Condition. From the New York Press.

As was to be expected, it is proved that those people who suffered explosions from the interior over the armistice question sac rificed the tops of their heads needlessly When Spain proffered an armistice until October the yellow journals and their hysterical followers did not wait to see what the president and the government would They went wild on the spot and blew up all their magazines.

Now it is announced that any considera tion which the administration has given to the armistice proposition has been solely on such conditions as would guarantee the immediate independence of Cuba. course, if Spain were to yield independer to Cuba there would be a cessation of hos tilities while the royal army was being re-moved from the island. This would hap-

pen whether the United States took any

part in the affair or not. The only sort of armistice that the insurgents or the United States government would think of as a possibility is the layng down of arms pending the debarkatio of Spain's civic and military establishment

### Race Superiority Must Conquer.

rom the Chicago Times-Herald. Captain Mahan, the foremost American writer on naval affairs, in comparing the ighting strength of the United States with hat of Spain declares that the result of a naval battle does not depend primarily upon the ships, guns and armor plate, but upon

While the Spaniards individually are

physically courageous, they have little co

herent fighting strength, and by individual comparison they fall far below the Amer cans in everything but personal daring They are inferior in physique, they lack power of endurance, they are bad marks men both in the army and navy, and they are little acquainted with moral courage The triumphs of Spain in war are no creditable to a people who boast o a nation of fighters. Most of her victories have been won from poorly armed and ur skilled foes, as was the case in all her conquests of the Indians on the American continent. Treachery and assassination were her favorite methods of warfare against these peaceably disposed people Since the days of Philip III. Spain ha steadily declined in power and has suffered defeat on every hand. England and France despoiled her of territory, and her colonic won back by the sword the independence they had lost through placing their trus n her unworthy hands. Wherever and whenever Spain has met a foe upon equal

ground she has been vanquished. In splendid contrast to this have been the achievements of the American arms in the few wars in which the country has been embroiled. With America it has been a contest against a superior force and against a people of proved fighting qualities. Both on sea and land the American forces, al ways inspired by the justice of their cause, have been invulnerable

It is the consensus of expert opinion that the American sailors are to-day the equal of any to be found in the navies of the world. In marksmanship the American navy is unexcelled, and the standard of intelligence is only equaled by that of the British.

The result of a conflict between the United States and Spain must be inevitably a victory for the former. All else being equal, the superiority of American men would insure a speedy triumph, but there are many other inequalities, and they are all in favor of the United States and against Spain.

### English Sympathy and Support.

From the Philadelphia Press. The unanimous expression and utterance of the English press at this juncture is as encouraging to this country as it is hongrable to both

Both have had their conflicts, their collisions and their mutual differences. Neither is always able to approve the other. But in this hour of serious concern for the United States, whose power so far exceeds Spain that the moral support and approval of the world is more than usually necessary in a conflict between a great nation and a weak one, the moral support and sympathy of English public opinion is of incalculable importance and value. The report on the Maine has awakened this support and sympathy, yesterday and to-day, from the organs of every shade of English opinion. The Times, which to an unusual degree reflects the foreign policy of England under the present administration, reminds the world that if war comes Englishmen will remember that of the two combatants, both friendly, "one is knitted to us yet closer by ties of blood." The Standard, the extreme Conservative organ, and the Daily News, as extreme in its Liberal views, unite in common approval and support of the United States. Papers like the St. James' and Pall Mall Gazettes, in the past quick to criticise us, urge prompt and decided action by the

United States. This vigorous and unanimous expression of English public opinion ends any possi ble action by Europe, which has in truth from the beginning been impossible. A common protest and the moral support of Spain was, however, possible on the ground that the cause of Spain is the cause of colonial Europe. Such a plea, in the face of the attitude of England, owning the largest colonies in the West, becomes

It is not the United States but Spain thich at this juncture stands isolated, and the friendly attitude and cordial sympathy of Great Britain, to which this country owes much, cannot fail to be the beginning of a more friendly sentiment in both countries, and a growing desire in both that each may always be right in international conflicts and each always have a right to expect the visible moral support

#### and sympathy of the other. The Legislative Microbe.

From the New York Sur The impulse to legislate in any direction seems to be infectious. Let one statesman nave an idea and put it into the form of bill which gains some notoriety, and forthwith a friend of the human race in some other part of the country embodies the same idea in a bill and gets some local fame out of it. Originality is not proved by this, but rather the working of the imitative faculty, for it is only a great mind that is truly creative. Not long ago an Ohio legislator resurrected the old Greek philosopher's idea of the perfect marriage and introduced a bill providing that per sons desiring to marry must be examined by a board of physicians, who, only on deciding that neither was afflicted with insanity nor was suffering from disease likely to be transmitted to Issue, should grant a license for the union. The bill, of course, made a great stir, and the introducer was called a fool, a visionary, or a humanitarian, according to the notion of the critics who included many practicing physicians We expected that the Ohio idea would

break out somewhere else, and, sure enough, it is heard of in Maryland, where a statesman named Halbert has framed a bill on the same lines. Of all the comments upon it which we have seen, perhaps the anest is as follows: "If the bill should become a law, there would only be another statute to evade, and thereby the moral tone of the people would be lowered." Physicians to whose notice the measure is brought unite in saying that the millen-nium slumbers in it, but there is scarcely one of them who is not amused. It strike us that the millennium must come before human nature would observe such a law or a board of examiners honestly enforce it The Halbert bill is an argument for biennial essions for those few states that still cling o the annual legislative session

### A Possible Result. From the Chicago Post. We are lost in admiration of the patriot

ic, though entirely ladylike, attitude of the

roung women of Chase Art school in New York, who are said to have forwarded to President McKinley this dignified yet earnest message: "To hell with diplomacy. The dispatch relates that 100 young women assented to this patriotic declaration, which met with the approbation of the three mod-erators of the meeting. We presume it was necessary to have moderators in order to noderate the tone of the dispatch, and at times we wonder how that dispatch wor have read if it had not been moderated. We know a little about the agitations occa sionally started by the art students in Rusia, Paris and Berlin, but this, we believe, is the incipient outbreak in New York, and coming from such a fine body of young ladies, it possesses great significance. It is perhaps possible that a few of these charming creatures are the children of old-fashioned parents; and if so, we may expect to hear of a warmth of tone in downward

strokes that will elicit applause from th

### TO DAFFODILS.

O yellow flowers that Herrick sung! O rellow flowers that danced and swung In Wordsworth's verse, and now to me, Unworthy, from this "pleasant lea,"

Laugh back, unchanged and ever young :-Ah, what a text to us o'erstrung, O'erwrought, o'erreaching, hoarne of lung You teach by that immortal glee,

O yellow flowers! We, by the Age's cestrus stung unt the New with eager tongue, Vexed ever with the Old, but ye, What ye have been ye still shall be,

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### A DISTANT APRIL

O yellow flowers!

Ah, worshiped one: ab, faithful Spring! Again you come, again you bring That flock of flowers from Where warm they slept while we were cold.

Ah, hear me promise, and as true Ne'er shall you came and as a child Sit in the market piping mild

What shall we say to one so dear,

That keeps her promise every year!

With dance-incitement in your glance, And I not dance-and I not dance! But you the same will ever be, While ninety Springs will alter me;

An old child dancing with s

Yet truly as you come and play, There is a strange thing to be seen One distant April, pink and green: Before a young child piping sweet

### "TO SUFFER AND BE STRONG."

-Gertrude Hall, in Harper's Magazine

Oh, fear not a world like this, Know how sublime a thing it is To suffer and be strong.

—Heary W. Longfellow.

OF CURRENT INTEREST. The news that Paul Dunbar, James White omb Riley and Will Cook, of Washington, are writing a negro comic opera is interest-ing. Properly produced, this opera, if it proves to be worth its sait at all, ought to make a success. Young Mr. Dunbar in speaking of this matter recently said: want to have the opera played entirely by cumstances, it would be taken seriously or not I don't know, but then, you know, it s just as well for the authors when a nic opera is not taken too seriously. However, our opera tells a legitimate story and its songs are taken from those sung by the Southern people and have nothing

just now." It is said that one of the Prince of Wales' favorite pastimes is cutting out his own pictures and those of his immediate family from the pages of the illustrated papers and afterward pasting them in a scrapook. He has an extraordinary collection of these books, for, besides being a subscriber to two press clipping agencies, he s always on the alert to collect for himself whatever refers to his wife and daughters. Nothing vexes the prince more than to find derogatory comments about them, though it must be said he seldom sees anything that is not pleasant or com ry. It only amuses him to read criticisms

n common with the fake negro songs which

one hears so much of in the music halls

of his own conduct. That Spain should appeal to France in the present crisis is perhaps natural but it would be interesting to learn on what ground she appeals to that country as "het raditional friend." France has always been the bitter enemy of Spain. It was Francis II., of France who did the most to defeat the schemes of the Emperor Charles V. It was Napoleon who conquered Spain by reachery; and it was an alliance the English and Spanish that did the most overthrow him. There could scarcely e found in Europe two nations traditional v more hostile than France and Spain.

The university cable chess match between Oxford and Cambridge and the American universities of Harvard, Yale, Columbia nd Princeton, will Representatives of the American student clubs met in New York and accepted the alteration of rule proposed by the English-men, limiting the eligibility of players to five years after matriculation. The match is to be played at the Manhattan Chess Club's rooms in New York and is to be played in one day-unfinished games to be

adjudicated by a referee. Before the house of representatives at Washington assembles each day there i placed on the speaker's desk a box shaped tray of solid silver. Promptly after the house adjourns it is taken again to the speaker's room. It contains three small bottles, one for red ink, one for black ink and one for sand, such as was used in the early days for drying ink. The ink tray is part of the furniture of the speaker's ro and has more than ordinary interest, for it

the speaker's chair. Clement A. Griscom, Jr., manager of the American Steamship Company, said the other day that the government had not as yet called for any of the vessels of that line, and that no intimation had been received when, if at all, such action would be taken. In case of war, however, the company would prefer that Uncle Sam should take the cracks than that they should be laid up useless at their piers, as, of course, they otherwise would be.

The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church Rev. Dr. Hall-heads the list of Presbyterian bodies in New York in the matter of receipts. Last year, in spite of rumblings and mutterings, the cash received amounted to \$106,000. The next on the list in the amount of its receipts was the Brick Pres-byterian, Rev. Dr. Van Dyke, \$56,000; the Madison Square, Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, coming next, with \$53,00. The reichstrath has opened at Vienna, and the fillbusters have come back ap-

cation, and ready to howi and shout louder than ever. The emperor may presently suspend the constitution and attempt to govern without a parliament, as he has a legal right to do, and Austria will then have a rest from the noise of obstruction-The late Sir Henry Bessemer was a great inventor, but he did not succeed in everything he undertook in that line. For

parently refreshed by their ten weeks' va-

instance, he spent a small fortune on an apparatus designed to prevent seasickness, but it failed to accomplish its pur-pose, the same as all the alleged antidotes for seasickness have failed. New Orleans streets are so accommodate ingly named that, according to a veracious bronicler, a tram-car conductor was enabled recently to put off a time killer at

Pleasant street, a blow-hard at Bragg, a hurry fiend at Short, a bore at Chestnut, and a negro at Blackberry street. The latest visitor to Monte Carlo saw an elderly gentleman, who had made his money in the lumber business in the United States, playing 10,000 franc notes at every dealing of the cards at the tren-

te-et-quarante table, and he won more frequently than he lost. Benjamin F. March, of Illinois, who wanted war declared the other day, is one of the most distinguished looking men in congress. He rose from a private to a colonel during the war, served in nine states

and was shot four times. Verdi, the Italian composer, charges \$5 for an autograph or a signed photograph. When the request comes from a wealthy admirer he asks double that sum. He does not keep the money, but distributes it among the poor.

Queen Victoria objects both to electric light and gas—that is, so far as her own personal use is concerned. Oil is permitted very slightly, but candles of an extra-spe cial make are still her favorite illuminant